Reynolds Riley Rogan Rogers Rohrabacher Ros-Lehtinen Roukema Royce Ryan (WI) Ryun (KS) Salmon Sanford Saxton Scarborough Schaffer Sensenbrenner Sessions Shadegg Shavs Sherwood

Shimkus Thune Shuster Tiahrt Simpson Toomey Skeen Traficant. Smith (MI) Upton Smith (NJ) Vitter Smith (TX) Walden Souder Walsh Spence Wamn Stearns Watkins Stump Watts (OK) Sununu Weldon (FL) Sweeney Weldon (PA) Talent Tancredo Weller Whitfield Tauzin Wicker Taylor (MS) Taylor (NC) Wilson Wolf Terry Young (AK) Thomas Thornberry Young (FL)

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Mr. CRAMER changed his vote from "yea" to "nay.

Mr. GOODLATTE changed his vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PACKARD. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the bill (H.R. 2605) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

AND WATER DEVELOP-ENERGY APPROPRIATIONS MENT ACT. 2000

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mrs. EMERSON). Pursuant to House Resolution 261 and rule XVIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2605.

\sqcap 1642

IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2605) making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes, with Mr. Hansen in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the rule, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

Under the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. PACKARD) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKY) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. PACKARD).

Mr. PACKARD, Mr. Chairman, I vield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, it is my privilege to present to the Committee of the Whole for its consideration the bill H.R. 2605, making appropriations for energy and water development for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000.

Mr. Chairman, this bill provides annual funding for a wide array of Federal Government programs involving such diverse matters as national security, environmental cleanup, flood control, advanced scientific research, navigation, alternative energy sources, and the nuclear power regulation.

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Programs funded by this bill affect multiple aspects of American life, having significant implications for domestic security, commercial competitiveness, and the advance of science.

I am proud of the bill reported by the Committee on Appropriations without amendment, and I believe it merits the support of the entire membership of this body.

Perhaps the most remarkable aspect of this bill is its constrained size. The measure represents an unqualified vicfor fiscal austerity. conservativism, and responsibility.

Total funding for the energy and water bill in H.R. 2605 is \$20.19 billion. This is more than \$900 million below the fiscal year 1999 baseline for energy and water development programs. Further, it is \$1.4 billion below the budget request and more than \$1 billion less than the energy and water bill passed by the Senate earlier this year.

Mr. Chairman, the substantial cuts contained in H.R. 2605 are real. They are not produced by smoke and mirrors gimmicks or creative accounting. They, rather, are the result of a fiscal discipline demanding reduction in the size, scope, and cost of the Federal Government.

Despite the bill's deep programmatic reductions, it provides adequate funding for the continuation of high priority programs, promising the greatest return on the investment of taxpayer dollars.

The cost-effective civil works program of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, for example, is funded at a level significantly higher than the budget request and slightly higher than the fiscal year 1999 level. This funding is more than offset by considerable reductions in the Department of Energy.

The bill requires, for example, a reduction of \$125 million in DOE contractor travel expenses. This is onehalf the level of this current year. And, as my colleagues all know, we have received documented evidence of abusive travel in that Department.

Mr. Chairman, I owe a great debt of gratitude to the hard-working members of the Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development. They have labored hard under difficult fiscal constraints to provide a bill that is balanced and fair.

I especially want to express my gratitude to the ranking minority member, the honorable gentleman from Indiana (Mr. Visclosky). He has been extremely helpful. Together we have developed a good bill. I know there are one or two items of disagreement, but overall I think both of us support a very good bill.